Proceeding:	In the Matter of 1998 Biennial Regulatory Review Amendment of Part of the Record 1 of 1				
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Lawfirm Name:					
Contact Name:	: applicant_name				
Address Line 1:	c/o 1450 West Lake Brantley Road				
Address Line 2:					
City:	Longwood		State: FL		
Zip Code	: 32779 Post	al Code:		e Chatana (TIME	ESTRICTED 14
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FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

No. of Copies rec'd\_\_\_\_\_\_ List A B C D E In your proposal, you have suggested establishing a system that cleans up the licensure catagories, into a simplified grouping system. Bravo!

However, you have not proposed any changes to the CW proficiency level requirements...! Most interesting position to take.... initially.

In that the International minimal requirement and the only requirement on CW proficency speeds that are in existance in their rules, is only 5 wpm, then perhaps, when establishing a CW proficency level for a minimal level license, now proposed as GENERAL, you might consider the issue of consistency, and re-propose the level to be consistent with the International level of 5 wpm, particularly in light of the issue of reciprocity.

Additionally, if you use the wording in your regulations to reflect that the code level of HF proficency to be the same as "xxxx" (the International rule - currently at 5 wpm) then, IF the International standard changes, you do not need to revisit this issue, as the proficiency level will automatically be changed to "0". This is the KISS theory... Keep It Simple, Stupid...

As for the rationale for a potential future level of "0", remember that it has already been determined that the "Public Safety" does not require the use of CW/Morse Code proficency on navigatable waters or seas when the USCG et al dropped the requirement for Morse Code Proficiency for such - Interstate

AND International vessels. If there is no need on the navigatable rivers in the various states of the Union, and on the High Seas, outside of the territorieal waters of the States and Territories, where is the justification for a different standard on an Interstate Highway.

Additionally, there is currently no statutory requirement for a license to be used when communicating within the several States by state Citizens for communication of a non-commercial nature, between other state Citizen of any of the several States.

Thus, it might be propitious to claim the international standard as the ONLY level required for ALL HF communications, due to the requirements of International

Treaty. Again, when the Treaty is amended, so will your proficiency levels.... KISS!

Keep up the good work, John Rauch N4YXS, PG(1)-7-10223